



Swansea Primary

1195 I.W. Hutto Road
Swansea, South Carolina

Grades	PK-2 Primary School	
Enrollment	403 Students	
Principal	Mrs. Lillian Atkins	803-568-1050
Superintendent	Dr. Linda G. Lavender	803-568-1000
Board Chair	Mrs. Shelia Parkman	803-568-2786

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2009 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2009	Excellent	Excellent
2008	Excellent	Good
2007	Excellent	Good
2006	Excellent	Excellent
2005	Excellent	Good

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
10	1	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/12/2010. Primary Schools with Students like Ours are primary schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Performance Rating Criteria

Prime instructional time	85.1%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.7 to 1
Teachers with advanced degrees	53.8%
Teachers returning from previous year	83.8%
Percent of parents attending conferences	100.0%
Days of professional development devoted exclusively to knowledge and skills working with children less than eight years old	8.6 days

Types Of Accreditation (More Than One May Apply)

	Not pursuing accreditation
	Conducting a self-study
X	South Carolina Department of Education
X	Southern Association of Colleges and School
	American Montessori Society
	National Association for the Education of Young Children

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Primary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Primary School
Students (n=403)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	98.9%	Down from 100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	1.1%	Down from 1.3%	4.0%	3.6%
Attendance rate	95.1%	No Change	95.6%	95.7%
With disabilities other than speech	4.3%	Down from 6.6%	4.6%	4.2%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=26)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	53.8%	Up from 41.4%	65.7%	60.7%
Continuing contract teachers	88.5%	Up from 65.5%	87.2%	83.3%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	83.8%	Up from 82.0%	89.4%	89.6%
Teacher attendance rate	91.7%	Down from 95.7%	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$44,186	Up 9.2%	\$47,930	\$47,550
Professional development days/teacher	12.1 days	Down from 19.2 days	16.8 days	16.7 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	No Change	4.0	5.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.7 to 1	Up from 16.2 to 1	19.2 to 1	19.3 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.1%	Down from 87.1%	89.9%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$9,007	Up 9.3%	\$7,049	\$6,858
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	56.5%	Down from 58.7%	70.7%	70.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	51.2%	Up from 50.6%	64.9%	63.7%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A--Not Applicable N/AV--Not Available N/C--Not Collected N/R--Not Reported I/S--Insufficient Sample

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Swansea Primary School experienced some significant changes during the 2008-2009 school year. Through the use of instructional coaches and weekly collaborative planning time, we were able to continue building the capacity of our faculty in the area of professional learning communities that focused on formative periods of learning with the goal of increasing student achievement. Assessments of student learning became the driving force behind instructional decisions.

Swansea Primary School strives to be a community school by involving parents in decision-making. Schoolwide opportunities for parent and community involvement for the 2008-2009 school year included the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO); Promoting Achievement, Learning and Success (PALS) program; and the School Improvement Council. The PTO sponsored a very successful Fall Festival that was well attended by many community members. In the spring, the PTO hosted a private Mr. Al performance for students. PALS sponsored monthly parenting meetings that focused on ways for parents to be more actively involved in the education of their children. The School Improvement Council was involved in our Title One planning meetings.

Swansea Primary School continues to focus on writing throughout the curriculum and on providing intervention in areas of ELA and mathematics for students who need additional help. Teachers used weekly common planning time to collaborate ways to help those students who were struggling.

As we look forward to the 2009-2010 school year, Swansea Primary School is beginning the transition toward offering public school choice for 2010-2011 school year. In the summer of 2009, many teachers will begin Montessori training through Lander University. These classes will be taught at Swansea Primary School for teachers from Swansea Primary and Frances Mack Primary schools. As we enter into our last year of existence, Swansea Primary school will continue to focus on student achievement through high quality staff development opportunities for teachers and staff.

Janice Albert, School Improvement Council Chairperson
Lillian Atkins, Principal

Evaluations by Teachers

	Teachers
Number of surveys returned	12
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%

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School Adequate Yearly Progress	YES
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Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	5.8%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	12.9%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	95.1%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year